

amino acid sequence of: DSDVRRPW (SEQ ID NO:260) or AADQRRGW (SEQ ID NO:261) or DGRGGRSY (SEQ ID NO:262).

149. (New) The method of claim 142 wherein the protein is not more than 50 amino acids in length and includes, positioned anywhere along its sequence, the contiguous amino acid sequence of: RVRS (SEQ ID NO:263) or SVRSGCGFRGSS (SEQ ID NO:264) or SVRGGCGAHSS (SEQ ID NO:265).

150. (New) The method as in one of claims 143-149 wherein the protein is not more than 40 amino acids in length.

151. (New) The method as in one of claims 143-149 wherein the protein is not more than 30 amino acids in length.

152. (New) The method as in one of claims 143-149 wherein the protein is not more than 20 amino acids in length.

153. (New) The method as in one of claims 143-149 wherein said composition facilitates the transport of the drug through human or animal gastro-intestinal tissue.

154. (New) The method as in one of claims 143-149 in which the administering is oral.

155. (New) The method as in one of claims 143-149 in which the subject is a human.

REMARKS

Claims 31-39 and 98-108 have been canceled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter of the canceled claims in the present application or in related applications.

New claims 109-155 have been added. Support for the new claims can be found in the specification as originally filed as set forth in the chart below.

Claim	Support in Specification ¹
109-116	page 19, lines 27-29; page 20, lines 17-19; page 30, line 24 to page 31, line 2; page 20, line 26 to page 21, line 2; page 41, lines 16-29; page 43, line 28 to page 44, line 3; page 243, line 27 to page 247, line 29
128-135	page 19, lines 27-29; page 20, lines 17-19; page 30, line 24 to page 31, line 2; page 20, line 26 to page 21, line 2; page 41, lines 16-29; page 43, line 28 to page 44, line 3; page 44, lines 13-24; page 243, line 27 to page 247, line 29
142-149	page 19, lines 27-29; page 20, lines 17-19; page 30, line 24 to page 31, line 2; page 20, line 26 to page 21, line 2; page 40, lines 21-23; page 40, line 31 to page 41, line 8; page 41, lines 16-29; page 43, line 28 to page 44, line 3; page 243, line 27 to page 247, line 29
117	page 44, lines 13-25
118	page 44, lines 30 to page 45, line 1,
119	page 9, line 26 to page 10, line 3
120, 136, 150	page 22, lines 20-26
121, 137, 151	page 22, lines 20-26

¹ The page numbers cited in this response refer to pages in the substitute specification of May 3, 2000.

122, 138, 152	page 22, lines 20-26
123, 139, 153	page 44, lines 7-12
124, 140, 154	page 9, line 26 to page 10, line 3; page 44, lines 5-13
125	page 9, lines 26 to page 10, line 3; page 43, lines 13-16; page 43, lines 27 to page 44 line 2
126-127, 141, 155	page 9, lines 16-21; page 43, line 23-27

After entry of the present amendment, claims 75 and 109-155 will be pending in the present application. For the Examiner's convenience, attached hereto as Exhibit A is a list of the claims as pending following the entry of the instant amendment.

THE REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

Claims 31-39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by O'Mahony (U.S. Patent No. 6,117,632). In particular, the Examiner contends that there are no structure, size, activity or other characteristics set forth to distinguish the instant proteins from the prior art proteins.

Applicants have canceled claims 31-39 without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the canceled claims in related applications. New claims 109-155 recite the structural limitation that the claimed proteins comprise a specific amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NOS: 1-55 and 253-265, or a portion thereof. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn.

THE OBJECTION TO THE CLAIMS SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

Claims 106-108 have been objected to as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim should refer to other claims in the alternative only. Claims 106-108 have been canceled and replaced by new claims 120-122, 136-138, and 150-152 in order to avoid having these claims depend upon higher numbered claims. These new claims comply

with the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure's examples of acceptable multiple dependent claim wording. See M.P.E.P. (8th Ed.; August 2001), § 608.01(n)(I)(A) at p. 600-72 (see claim 8 example). Thus, applicants respectfully request that the objection based on improper form be withdrawn.

Claims 98-105 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 98-105 have been canceled and replaced by new dependent claims 110-116, 129-135, and 143-149 in order to avoid having these claims depend upon higher numbered claims. These new claims do not depend upon a rejected base claim. Applicants respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the amendments be entered and made of record in the present application. Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims fully meet all statutory requirements for patentability. Action for issuance is respectfully requested.

If any outstanding issues remain, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call the undersigned to discuss such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 19, 2001

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Enclosures